

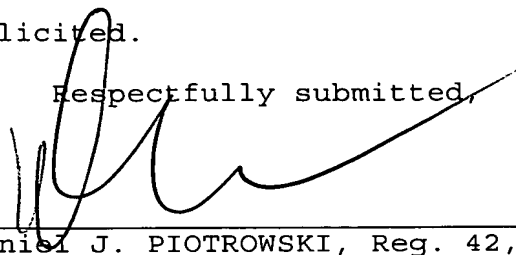
REMARKS

Claims 2-4 and 8-9 stand provisionally rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-4 co-pending Application No. 09196064. Claim 8 stands rejected under 35 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Lehr et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,793,875). Claim 8 has been canceled without prejudice. Accordingly the 35 U.S.C. 102(e) of claim 8 is moot. Claims 2-4 and 9 are pending.

The Applicant acknowledges the Examiner's provisional double patenting rejections of the present application and co-pending Application No. 09/919,064. Since co-pending Application No. 09/919,064 was filed prior to Nov. 29, 2000 and not voluntarily published, pursuant to M.P.E.P § 804 I.B, applicant elects to address the merits of the provisional double patenting rejections when they become ripe.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, favorable reconsideration and early passage to issue of the present application are respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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